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Published to advance the Science of cold-blooded vertebrates

NOTE ON *DORMITATOR MACULATUS* (BLOCH).

During the month of September of this year while collecting birds about 15 miles to the south of Guantanamo city at "El Tunar" near Novaliches I came across a drying up ravine, which had been used as a watering place by cattle and horses; the only water left, was such as had not yet been evaporated by the sun, in the hoofprints or other small depressions made by the animals; this water was very dirty. The ravine dries up completely during the dry season, and is far away from the nearest river. To my surprise, I found in the small puddles of water mentioned above, numerous small fish, these all lay very quietly and with their heads toward the outer part of the depressions thus forming a sort of wheel, the spokes of which were the fish. I gathered a dozen or so, placing them in a dry gourd I found, and left them there till I should finish collecting; I was away about an hour, and in the meantime the sun had crept up shining fully on the fish in the open hemispherical gourd; upon arriving home an hour and a half afterwards, and placing the fish in water in order to wash off the sticky dry mud, as I wanted the specimens for alcohol, I was astounded to see about 75 per cent of them swim about the basin. I still have some of them alive in an aquarium where they are very quiet and retiring. They do not swim about

but remain hidden in the small ruined castle that adorns the aquarium, where they rest in all positions from the perfectly vertical to the normal horizontal; when resting on the slate bottom of the aquarium they do so on their pectoral fins and tail, that is, at an angle with the surface upon which they lie; they will also align themselves quite perpendicularly along the upright wall of the ruined castle, remaining motionless for hours at a time. If they happen to be out of the castle and one approaches they will rush into it and hide, and if the castle be lifted slowly out of the water, the fish will follow inside till the surface is reached, then dropping to the bottom of the aquarium.

When I returned to the locality a week after taking the specimens I found the ravine quite dry, an awful stench caused by the dead fish, and the Turkey Vultures performing the sanitary duty they are so often called upon to perform in Spanish America.

I am indebted to Henry W. Fowler of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia for the identification of the above mentioned Gobies.

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Guantanamo, Cuba.

THE TURTLES AND THE LIZARD OF MONROE AND WAYNE COUN- TIES, NEW YORK.

1. *Kinosternon odoratum* (Latreille) Musk Turtle. Rare about the ponds west of Charlotte, N. Y., and occasional in the Montezuma Marshes of Wayne County.

2. *Chelydra serpentina* (Linné) "Snapping Turtle," "Mud Turtle." March 20-November 1. Next to painted turtle, this is the best known form in this region. Its eggs usually hatch in September or early October.